

Message Text

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67

ORIGIN AF-08

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S/S-S:RPERSIKO (7614062)

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

CPR-CHATHAWAY

NSC - MR. HARRISON

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R 202331Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS STATE 179530

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, EG

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT FROM STATE PRESIDENT DIEDERICH'S

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO STATE PRESIDENT DIEDERICH'S IN RESPONSE TO HIS TELEGRAM OF JULY 2.

2. QUOTE ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF GOOD WISHES ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE. AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY, THE UNITED STATES REDEDICATES ITSELF IN WORD AND DEED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY. WE WARMLY WELCOME YOUR EXPRESSION OF GOOD WILL IN SHARING WITH US THIS BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE.UNQUOTE.

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3. FYI: FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT DIEDERICH'S'

MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT FORD. QUOTE ON THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE IT AFFORDS ME THE GREATEST PLEASURE TO EXTEND TO YOU MR. PRESIDENT AND THROUGH YOU TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLES MY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS AND THOSE OF ALL SOUTH AFRICANS

ON THIS OCCASION. WE RECALL OUR COMMON HERITAGE IN THE ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS DISCOVERIES BY EUROPE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE IN 1487 AND AMERICA IN 1495, THE SUBSEQUENT ESTABLISHMENT OF EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT ON OUR SOILS IN THE MID-SEVENTEENTH CENTURY, THE RUGGED PIONEER SPIRIT THAT DROVE OUR PIONEERS IN THEIR COVERED WAGONS THROUGH TOIL AND HARDSHIP TO OPEN UP THE INTERIOR. WE RECALL ALSO OUR VARIOUS STRUGGLES TO FREE OURSELVES FROM THE BONDS OF COLONIALISM, OUR COMMON PARTICIPATION IN TWO WORLD WARS, IN THE BERLIN AIRLIFT AND IN DEFENCE OF SOUTH KOREA. AS THE UNITED STATES ENTERS ITS THIRD CENTURY, WE PRAY THAT ALMIGHTY GOD WILL GIVE YOU THE GUIDANCE AND THE STRENGTH TO FULFILL ITS DESTINY AS THE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD. UNQUOTE.

4. NO RELEASE INTENDED BUT NO OBJECTION IF RECIPIENT WISHES TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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